

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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Janet Napolitano
Governor

Herbert R. Guenther
Director

February 29, 2008

Charles Vaughn, Chairman faxed to: (928) 769-2343
Hualapai Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 179
Peach Springs, Arizona 86434

Re: Approval of Second Request for Extension of Emergency Groundwater Transfer for Grand Canyon West

Dear Chairman Vaughn:

On January 4, 2008, I approved Mr. Scott Pfeiffer's request for an emergency groundwater transfer for Grand Canyon West pursuant to Laws 2007, Ch. 149. The approval allowed Grand Canyon West to transport groundwater by motor vehicle from Joshua Valley Water Company in the Meadview Groundwater Basin to Grand Canyon West in the Peach Springs Groundwater Basin while the pipeline that normally serves groundwater to Grand Canyon West from wells in the Peach Springs Groundwater Basin was being repaired. My approval was subject to several conditions, including a condition that the approval was valid only through January 18, 2008.

On January 15, 2008, Mr. Pfeiffer requested an extension of the emergency groundwater transfer, stating that although all of the breaks in the pipeline had been repaired, water flow through the pipeline was sporadic, and there was a concern that the pipeline would break again, because the pipeline was not installed at a sufficient depth to prevent freezing at night. Mr. Pfeiffer stated that work was underway to bury the pipeline deeper and that it would take several weeks to complete the work due to the terrain and road conditions. On January 16, 2008, I approved Mr. Pfeiffer's request for an extension of the emergency groundwater transfer and stated that the extension was valid through February 29, 2008.

I am in receipt of your letter to me dated February 15, 2008, requesting a second extension of the emergency groundwater transfer. You state in your letter that the staff of the Grand Canyon Resort Corporation is working hard to bury the pipeline over its entire length of thirty to forty miles, but the work may take several more months because of the sheer distance and because recent storms have made the roadway where the pipeline is located virtually impassible. You request an extension through the life of the current authorizing statute, April 30, 2008, which you state should see you through any late-season cold spells.

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I understand that the pipeline has been fully operable for the past several days because of the higher temperature. Any need to transfer groundwater will therefore be on a reduced frequency during any periods in which the pipeline freezes during a cold spell or if the pipeline is otherwise disabled. I have, therefore, decided to approve the request for an extension of the emergency groundwater transfer, but the approval applies only during the periods of time that the pipeline is inoperable. The extension is valid through **April 30, 2008**. Groundwater may not be transported after that date unless approved in writing by the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources. This extension of the emergency groundwater transfer is subject to all other conditions set forth in my letter to Mr. Pfeiffer dated January 4, 2008. I expect that construction activity to bury the pipeline will be completed before the beginning of the next winter season.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Herbert R. Guenther *c*
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HRG:ckl

Cc: (posted on azwater.gov/dwr under Hot Topic)

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